

B. Claims

A complete listing of all the claims appears below; this listing replaces all earlier amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for decomposing a pollutant comprising:

a supplying first supply step for supplying a chlorine-generating solution to a first container ~~with a supply means from a cell for generating a chlorine-generating solution;~~

a second supply step for supplying a gaseous pollutant to the first container;
a chlorine-generating step for generating chlorine gas from the chlorine-generating solution contained in the first container;

a sending step for sending a mixed gas comprising the chlorine gas and the gaseous pollutant from the first container to a second container;

an irradiation step for irradiating the ~~pollutant~~ mixed gas in the second container with ~~the chlorine~~ light; and

a ~~flowing~~ step for ~~flowing from the container to the supply means; the chlorine-generating solution from which the chlorine is being generated or from which the chlorine has already been generated, wherein the supplying step adjusts the chlorine-generating solution returned from the container and supplies the adjusted chlorine-generating solution to the~~ first container to the cell.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine-generating step generates the chlorine gas by introducing a gas to the chlorine-generating solution.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a neutralizing step for neutralizing the chlorine-generating solution returned flow from the first container.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine-generating solution is an electrolyzed solution and is supplied to the first container in the supplying first supply step.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine-generating solution contains an inorganic acid and/or an organic acid.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein a wavelength of the light for irradiation is from 350 nm to 450 nm.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising an absorbing step for absorbing an air containing the pollutant from soil.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising an obtaining step for obtaining a gaseous pollutant from underground water.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pollutant is an organochlorine compound.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine-generating solution ~~returned~~ flowed from the first container is neutralized with alkaline water.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine-generating solution is a hypochlorous acid aqueous solution and/or a hypochlorite aqueous solution.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the cell adds chlorine to the chlorine-generating solution.

14. (New) A method for decomposing a pollutant comprising:
a first supply step for supplying a chlorine-generating solution to a first container from a cell for generating a chlorine-generating solution;
a second supply step for supplying a gaseous pollutant to a second container;
a chlorine gas-generating step for generating a chlorine gas from the chlorine-generating solution contained in the first container;

a sending step for sending the chlorine gas from the first container to the second container;

an irradiation step for irradiating a mixed gas comprising the chlorine gas and the gaseous pollutant in the second container with light; and

a flowing step for flowing the chlorine-generating solution from the first container to the cell.